

**In the claims**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-14. (canceled)

15. (currently amended) A method for promoting wound healing in a subject, comprising administering to a subject a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising an osteopontin derived chemotactic peptide and a pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier or diluent such that wound healing is promoted.

16-17. (canceled)

18. (currently amended) The method of claim 15, wherein said the therapeutic composition is administered topically.

19-20. (canceled)

21. (currently amended) A method for promoting cell migration to a target site in a subject comprising administering to a cell at the target site in said the subject a therapeutically effective amount of an osteopontin derived chemotactic peptide for a time and under conditions such that migration of said the cell to the target site is promoted, wherein the cell bears receptors that recognize a peptide in the therapeutic composition.

22. (currently amended) A method for modulating inducing in vitro cellular chemotaxis, comprising administering to incubating a cell in the presence of a therapeutically effective amount of an osteopontin derived chemotactic peptide for a time and under conditions

effective to induce chemotaxis of the cell, wherein the cell bears receptors that recognize the peptide such that modulation of cellular chemotaxis occurs.

23-25. (canceled)

26. (currently amended) A method for ~~treating~~ inhibiting the formation of atherosclerotic plaques in a subject, comprising administering to a the subject a therapeutically effective amount of an osteopontin derived chemotactic peptide, such that formation of atherosclerotic atherosclerotic plaques is prevented.

27-28. (canceled)

29. (currently amended) A method of inducing either in vitro or in vivo chemotaxis of a cell, comprising administering to a cell subject an osteopontin derived chemotactic peptide for a time and under conditions in an amount effective to induce chemotaxis, wherein the cell bears receptors that recognize the peptide.

30. (currently amended) The method of claim 29 22, wherein said the cell is a mammalian cell.

31. (currently amended) The method of claim 29, wherein said the cell is selected from the group consisting of a smooth muscle cell cells, a macrophage macrophages, an endothelial cell cells, vascular cells and cancerous cells a vascular cell.

32-33. (canceled)

34. (new) The method of claim 22, wherein said the cell is selected from the group consisting of a smooth muscle cell, a macrophage, an endothelial cell, and a vascular cell.